

On Wednesday, April 28, 2010, The House of Representatives unanimously passed H.R. 5148, legislation which removes any ambiguity from H.R. 4621, [bipartisan legislation sponsored by Rep. Maloney](#) that was signed into law last month, regarding the use of the word "Census" on materials mailed through the U.S. Postal Service.

[CQ reported on the bill's passage](#) :

RNC Fundraising Appeal Spurs House Action on Census Mailings Law

A bill to prevent deceptive uses of the word "census" on mailings sent by political parties and other non-government entities was passed by the House on Wednesday.

The RNC mailer included the word "census" on a document that could be seen through a plastic window on the letter's envelope. Issa's bill would prohibit use of the word "census" in any way that is visible through the envelope or on a wrapper.

House passage of the bill came after top Democrats on the Oversight and Government Reform Committee asked the Postmaster General to investigate whether a mailer sent by the RNC on April 12 violated a new federal law aimed at preventing deceptive mailers from reaching census recipients. That measure, signed April 7, grew out of a similar January mailing by the RNC.

"Apparently the RNC cannot even let one week go by without deceiving the American public," House Oversight and Government Reform Chairman Edolphus Towns, D-N.Y., said. "These mailings continue to mislead citizens, confuse voters, and annoy recipients."

Chairman Towns and Ranking Member Darrell Issa [issued a joint statement after the bill's passage](#). The bill now moves to the Senate for consideration.